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Message Text

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14
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 EUR-25 AF-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 EB-11 DRC-01 /183 W
---------- 049190
R 210502Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8343
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEHERAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 15254

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR JA SA ENRG
SUBJ: LDP LOWER HOUSE MEMBER KITAZAWA REVIEW OF MID-EAST TRIP

REF: TOKYO 14321

1. LOWER HOUSE MEMBER NAOKICHI KITAZAWA (LDP) REPORTED TO HAVE BRIEFED CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY SUSUMU NIKAIDO NOVEMBER 19 ON HIS RECENT VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAIT, AND IRAN (ITINERARY PER REFTEL).

ACCORDING TO PRESS, KITAZAWA TOLD NIKAIDO THAT ARAB OFFICIALS, WHOM HE MET, URGED JAPAN TO ADOPT CLEAR-CUT PRO-ARAB POLICY AND TAKE SPECIFIC MEASURES BEYOND VAGUE EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FOR UNSC RESOLUTION 242. KITAZAWA ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE EXPRESSED PESSIMISM ABOUT ARAB RELAXATION OF CURRENT CUTBACK IN OIL EXPORTS.

2. IN REVIEWING IMPRESSIONS OF TRIP WITH EMBOFF NOVEMBER 21, KITAZAWA EXPRESSED MINIMAL HOPE THAT SITUATION WOULD IMPROVE, BUT DID NOT REPEAT NOT BELIEVE THAT ARABS WOULD RELAX RESTRICTIONS ON OIL AT LEAST UNTIL PEACE TALKS WITH ISRAEL HAVE BEGUN. HE VIEWS KING FAISAL AS KEY TO SOLUTION, AND REGARDS KING FAISAL'S UNPRE-CEDENTED TRIP TO RIYADDH AIRPORT TO BID SECRETARY FAREWELL AS
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HOPEFUL SIGN. KITAZAWA ALSO SPECULATED THAT US SHOULD HAVE

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CONSIDERABLE LEVERAGE ON SAUDI ARABIA, GIVEN LATTER'S DEPENDENCE ON AMERICAN FOOD IMPORTS, PRESENCE OF US MILITARY ADVISORS AND HOPES OF RECEIVING 24-30 US PHANTOM F-4 AIRCRAFT. HE REITERATED VIEW THAT JAPAN SHOULD KEEP RELATIONS WITH US UPPERMOST IN MIND IN ATTEMPT TO ASSUAGE ARAB DEMANDS. KITAZAWA WAS IMPRESSED THAT LARGE NUMBER OF KEY ARAB OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN EDUCATED IN BEST AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES, WHICH IN HIS VIEW SHOULD FACILITATE COMMUNICATION.

3. KITAZAWA ASKED THAT HIS APPRECIATION BE CONVEYED FOR EFFORTS TO ARRANGE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR AKINS, WHICH UNFORTUNATELY DID NOT MATERIALIZE BECAUSE IT COINCIDED WITH HIS PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS DAY BEFORE SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL.

4. WHILE IN TEHERAN AS STATE GUEST TO RECEIVE GOI DECORATION KITAZAWA SAID IRANIAN OFFICIALS EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE SHIFT IN GOJ POLICY IN FAVOR OF ARABS, LEST THIS REINFORCE IRAQUI SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES INSIDE THEIR OWN BORDER.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT KITAZAWA'S PRESENTATION OF COMPLEXITIES OF MID-EAST SITUATION WOULD HAVE MUCH IMPACT ON GOJ AT THIS STAGE. LESS PESSIMISTIC AND MORE MODERATE VIEWS OF KITAZAWA MAY HAVE GREATER IMPACT ON FORMER PRIMIN KISHI AND TAKEO FUKUDA, WITH WHOM HE LINES UP CLOSELY IN LDP. END COMMENT.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, SUPPLIES, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PERSONNEL TRAVEL, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TOKYO15254
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731118/aaaaangq.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: TOKYO 14321
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Nov-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <19-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LDP LOWER HOUSE MEMBER KITAZAWA REVIEW OF MID-EAST TRIP
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, JA, SA, XF, US, (KITAZAWA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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